



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MINUS
1
JULY

FLASHBACK

HERE COMES...
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!



ALSO
STARRING:
Fearless
**FOGGY
NELSON!**

BEFORE
THERE WAS
DAREDEVIL --

-- THERE
WAS **MATT
MURDOCK!**

DEVOTED SON --
UPSTANDING
CITIZEN --
COLLEGE-BOUND
STUDENT...

...SO WHY
IS HE
TAKING
ON A FEW
THUGS



Gene
Coan

Blut
La Rosa

"AND I'M SURE...
THAT I'VE GONE
QUITE MAD."



FASTEN
YOUR SEATBELTS,
TRUE BELIEVERS!
YOU'RE IN FOR A
WILD RIDE!

I'M STAN
LEE, YOUR DRIVER
FOR TODAY, PREEMPTING
OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED
STORYLINE TO BRING YOU
A SUPER SPECIAL SAGA
FROM OUR MIGHTY
MARVEL VAULT!

THIS
TICKET ENTITLES
YOU TO A BULLET
TRAIN RIDE -- INTO
THE PERILOUS
PAST!

I'M
TAKING YOU
BACK -- WAY BACK
IN TIME -- BEFORE A
CERTAIN SWASHBUCKLING
SUPER HERO EVER SWUNG
THROUGH THE URBAN
JUNGLE OF NEW
YORK...

...BEFORE
THERE WAS
EVEN A GLINT OF THE
CRIMSON CRUSADER
IN THE SIGHTLESS
EYES OF MATT
MURDOCK!

SO, FACE
FRONT, O FEARLESS
ONE, AS OUR WILD
RIDE BEGINS!

**AUTUMN IN
NEW YORK.**

**THE LONG DAYS OF
SUMMER BEGIN TO
PEEL AWAY WITH
THE LEAVES...**

**...AND THE WORLD
METAMORPHOSES
UNDER A BLANKET OF
BRILLIANT CRIMSON
AND BURNT UMBER.**

**NOWHERE IS THIS
TRANSFORMATION
MORE READILY
APPARENT...**

**...THAN IN THE FACES
OF THE YOUNG MEN
AND WOMEN ABOUT
TO EMBARK ON THE
FIRST BIG ADVENTURE
OF THEIR LIVES...**

**...THE TREK
TO COLLEGE.**

**FOR SOME, IT IS A FRESH
START. A LONG AWAITED
CHANGE TO SHED OUTGROWN
SKIN AND DISCOVER WHAT
LIES BENEATH...**

**...FOR OTHERS, A
TIME TO SEVER
THE APRON
STRINGS...**

**...OR AT LEAST TO
STRETCH THEM A
FEW HUNDRED
MILES.**

**IT IS A TIME OF UNBRIDLED
EXCITEMENT,
OLD ADVICE,
AND NEW
BEGINNINGS,
BUT ABOVE
ALL...**



A TIME TO SAY FAREWELL

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

A VERY SPECIAL SLICE OF
THE CRIMSON CRUSADER'S LIFE,
VERY PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

JOE KELLY
WRITER

GENE (THE DEAN) COLAN
PENCILER

MATT RYAN
INKER

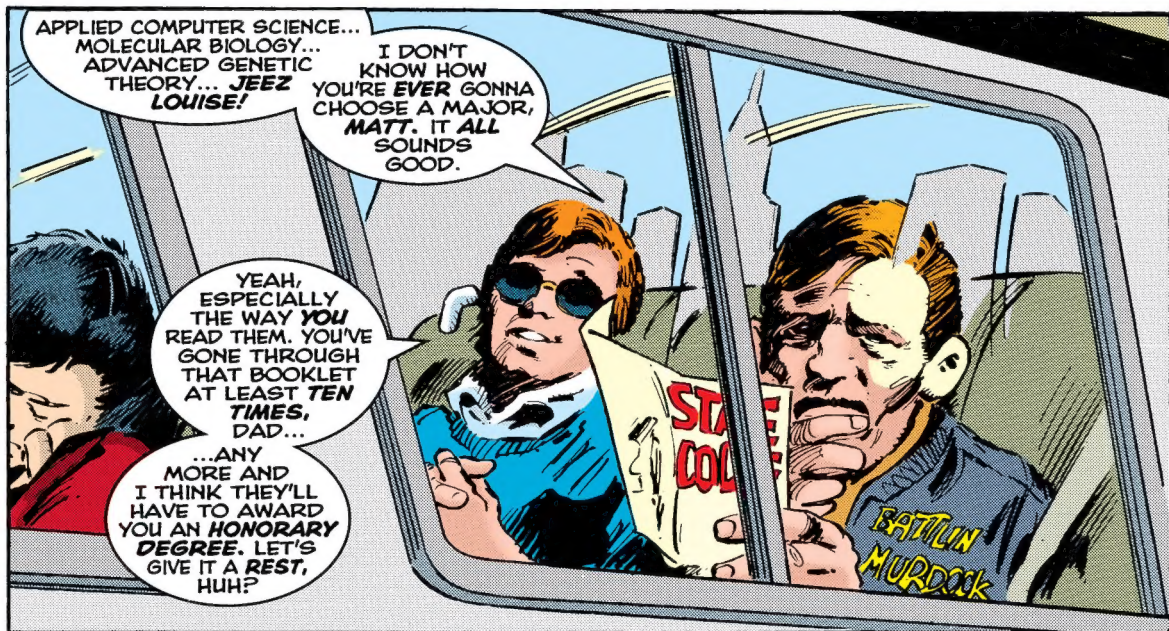
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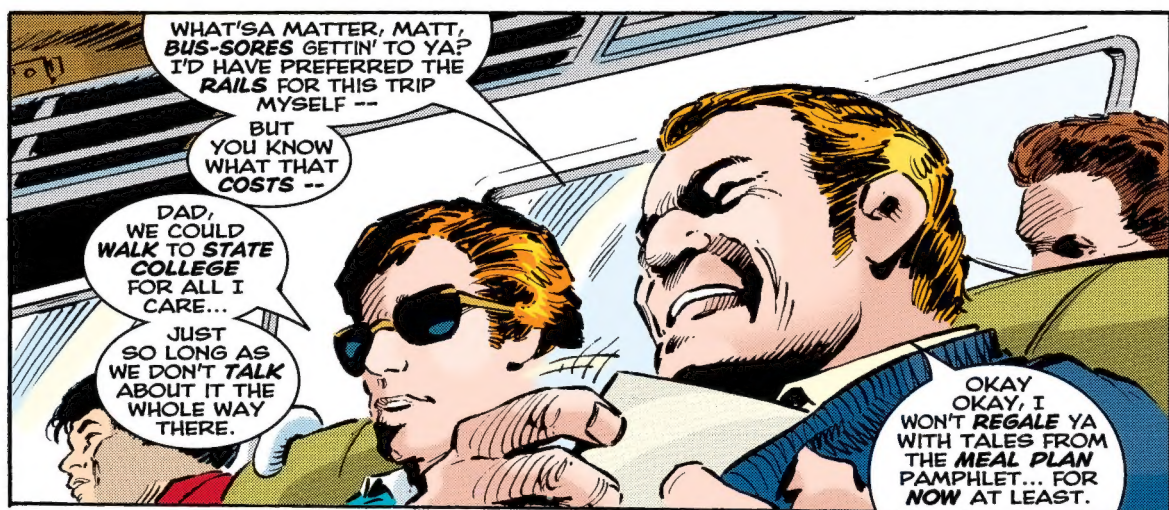


AND SO
BEGINS THE STARTLING
TALE OF AN OVER-THE-
HILL PRIZEFIGHTER AND
HIS BLIND, COLLEGE-
BOUND SON...

AS
BOTH MEN
UNSUSPECTINGLY
FACE THE
UNTHINKABLE
TOGETHER...

WHILE
WE BEAR
WITNESS TO
THE FATEFUL
EVENTS!





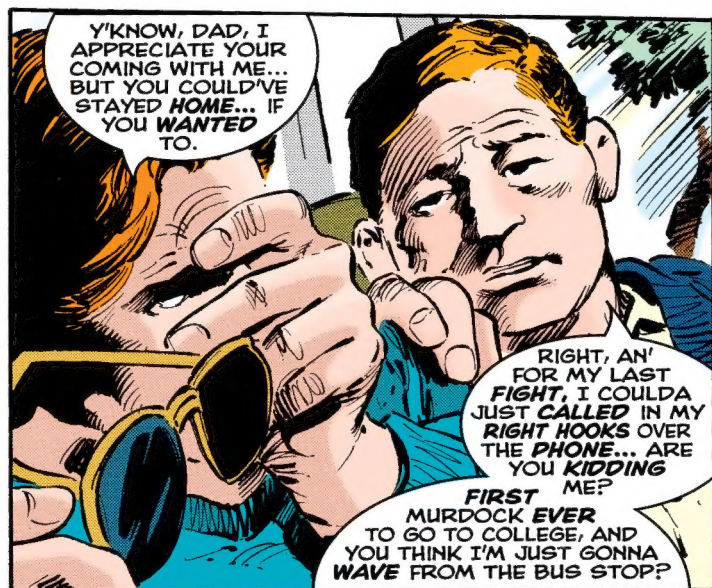
WHAT'S A MATTER, MATT,
BUS-SORES GETTIN' TO YAP?
I'D HAVE PREFERRED THE
RAILS FOR THIS TRIP
MYSELF --

BUT
YOU KNOW
WHAT THAT
COSTS --

DAD,
WE COULD
WALK TO STATE
COLLEGE
FOR ALL I
CARE...

JUST
SO LONG AS
WE DON'T TALK
ABOUT IT THE
WHOLE WAY
THERE.

OKAY
OKAY, I
WON'T REGALE YA
WITH TALES FROM
THE MEAL PLAN
PAMPHLET... FOR
NOW AT LEAST.



Y'KNOW, DAD, I
APPRECIATE YOUR
COMING WITH ME...
BUT YOU COULDN'T
STAYED HOME... IF
YOU WANTED
TO.

RIGHT, AN'
FOR MY LAST
FIGHT, I COULDA
JUST CALLED IN MY
RIGHT HOOKS OVER
THE PHONE... ARE
YOU KIDDING
ME?

FIRST
MURDOCK EVER
TO GO TO COLLEGE, AND
YOU THINK I'M JUST GONNA
WAVE FROM THE BUS STOP?



BESIDES,
WHO'S GONNA
LUG ALL OF THIS
STUFF YOU GOT
CRAMMED IN
THERE --

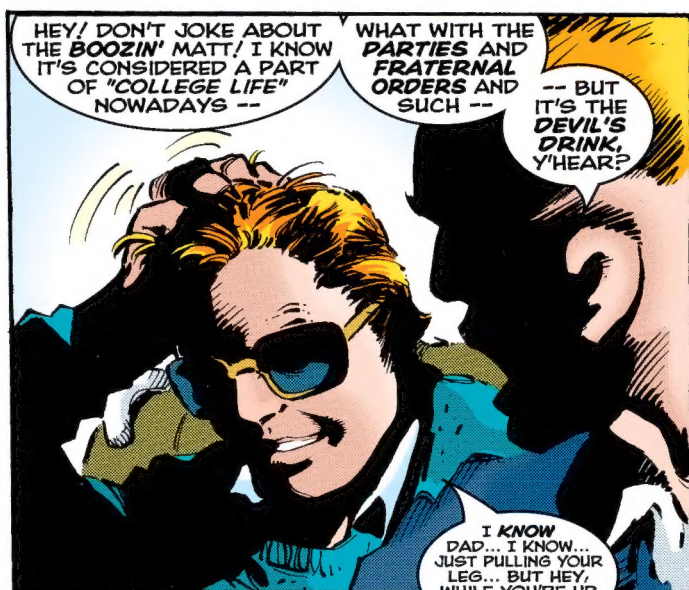
HEY, DID
YOU REMEMBER
TO PACK YOUR
THERMALS?



YES,
DAD... AND
MY SNOW
BOOTS...

...AND A
COLLAPSIBLE
IGLOO AND A
SNOWPLOW...

DID I
MENTION THE
ST. BERNARD
WITH THE LITTLE
BARREL OF
BRANDY?

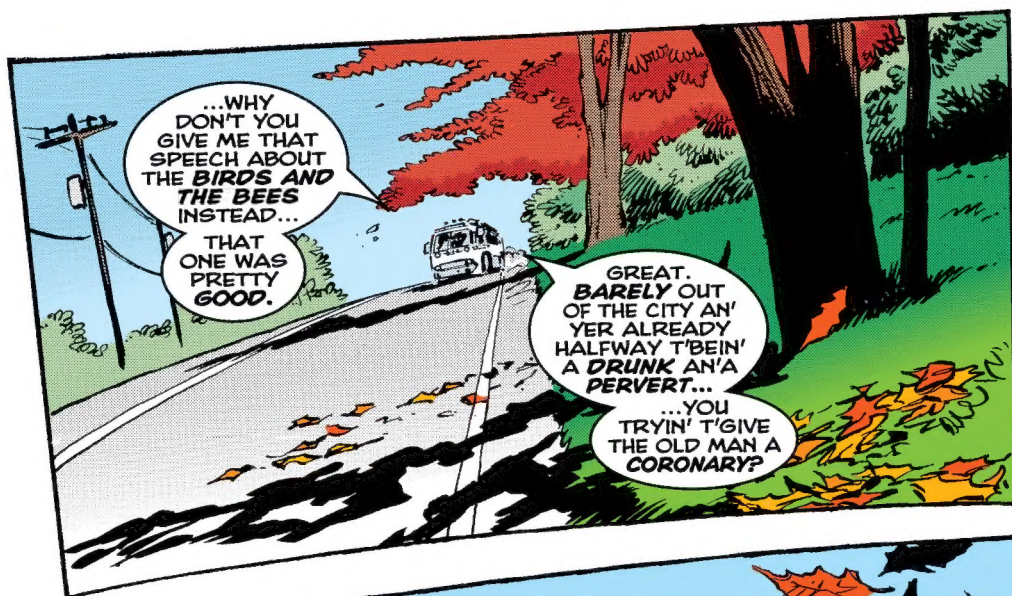


HEY! DON'T JOKE ABOUT
THE BOOZIN' MATT! I KNOW
IT'S CONSIDERED A PART
OF "COLLEGE LIFE"
NOWADAYS --

WHAT WITH THE
PARTIES AND
FRATERNAL
ORDERS AND
SUCH --

-- BUT
IT'S THE
DEVIL'S
DRINK,
Y'HEAR?

I KNOW
DAD... I KNOW...
JUST PULLING YOUR
LEG... BUT HEY,
WHILE YOU'RE UP
ON YOUR SOAP
BOX...

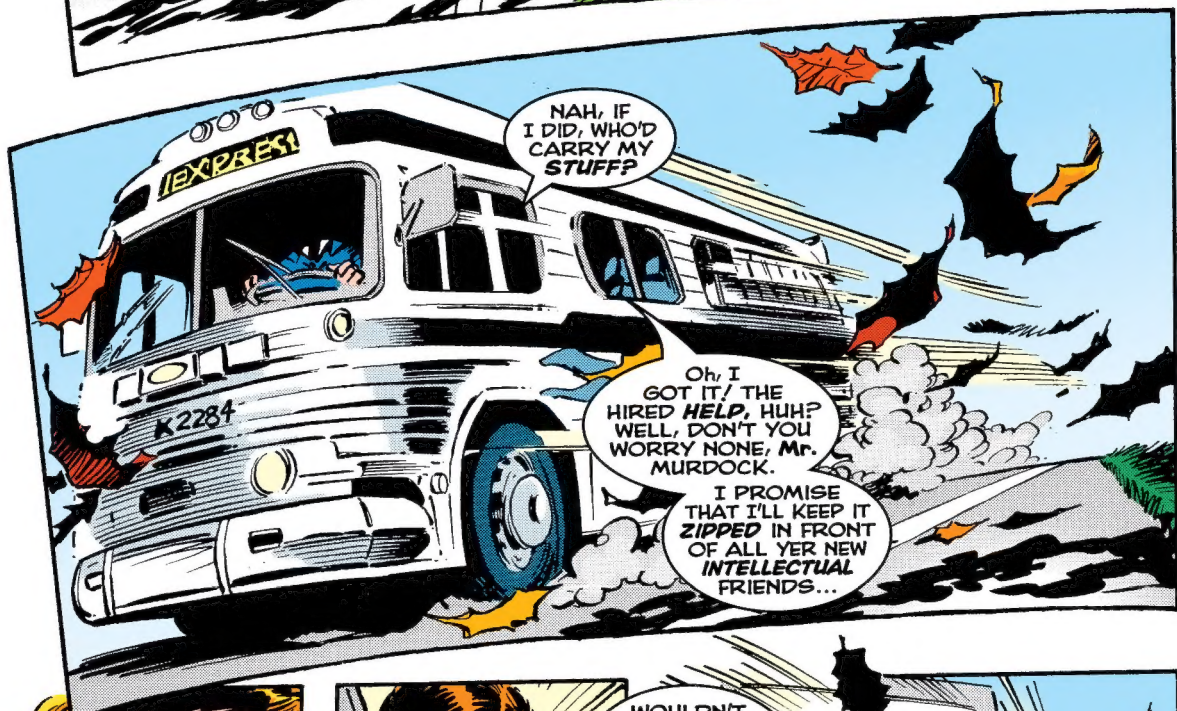


...WHY
DON'T YOU
GIVE ME THAT
SPEECH ABOUT
THE **BIRDS AND
THE BEES**
INSTEAD...

THAT
ONE WAS
PRETTY
GOOD.

GREAT.
BARELY OUT
OF THE CITY AN'
YER ALREADY
HALFWAY T'BEIN'
A **DRUNK AN'A
PERVERT...**

...YOU
TRYIN' T'GIVE
THE OLD MAN A
CORONARY?



NAH, IF
I DID, WHO'D
CARRY MY
STUFF?

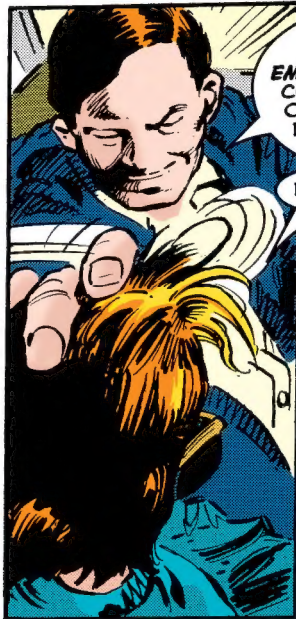
Oh, I
GOT IT! THE
HIRED **HELP**, HUH?
WELL, DON'T YOU
WORRY NONE, Mr.
MURDOCK.

I PROMISE
THAT I'LL KEEP IT
ZIPPED IN FRONT
OF ALL YER NEW
**INTELLECTUAL
FRIENDS...**



DAD'S
TRYING TO
MAKE JOKE'S,
BUT HE'S REALLY
NERVOUS...

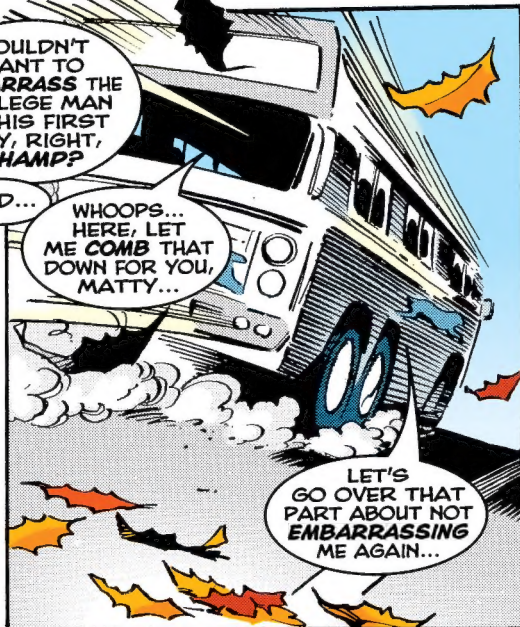
I CAN
SMELL A **TWINGE**
OF IT THROUGH HIS
AFTERSHAVE, AND
HIS **HEARTBEAT** IS
JUST A LITTLE FAST...



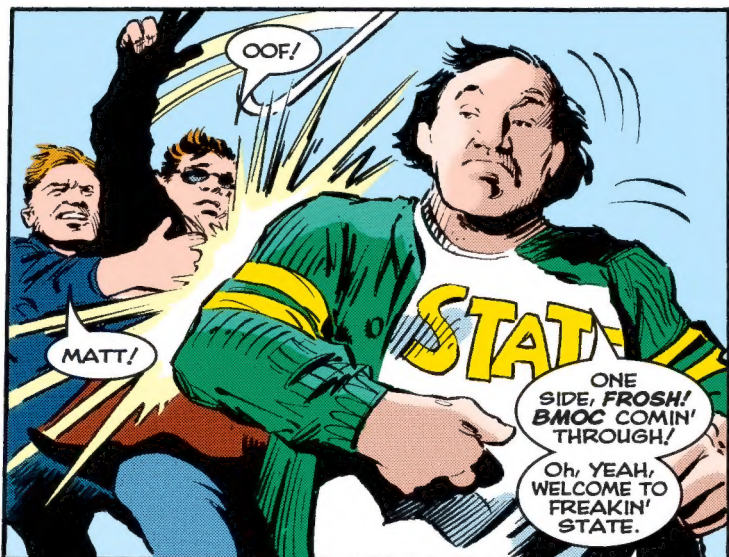
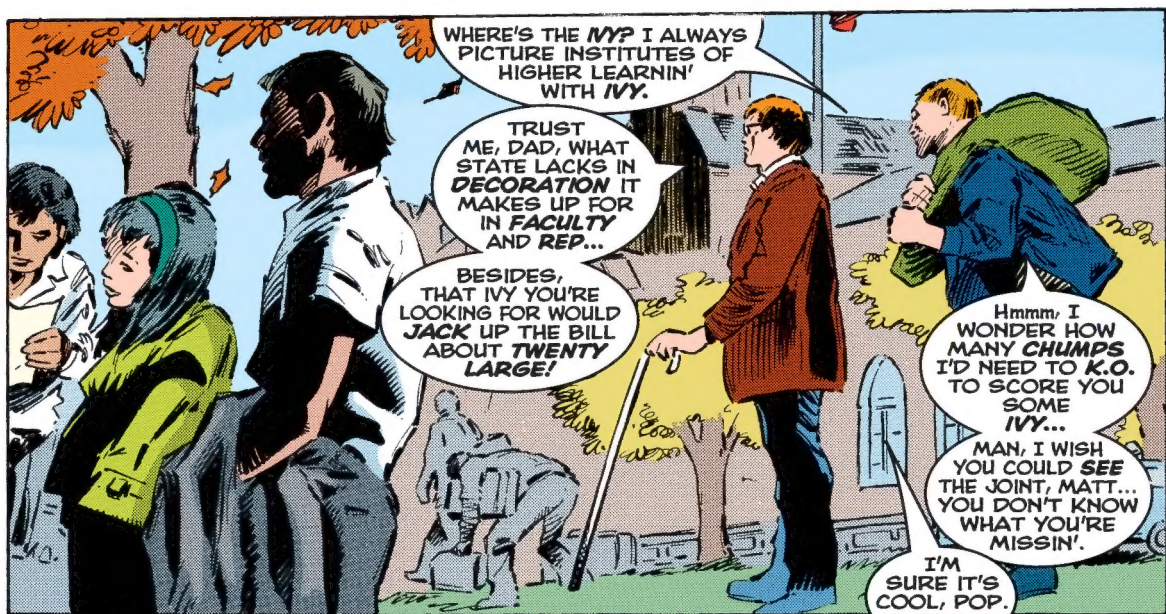
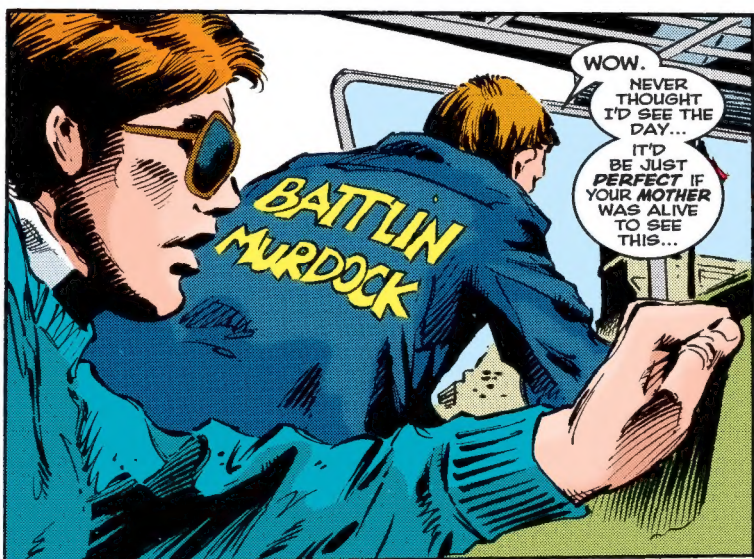
WOULDN'T
WANT TO
EMBARRASS THE
COLLEGE MAN
ON HIS FIRST
DAY, RIGHT,
CHAMP?

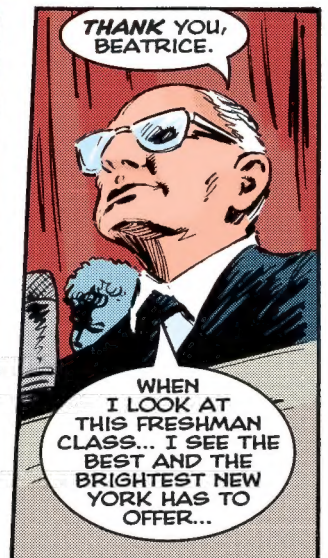
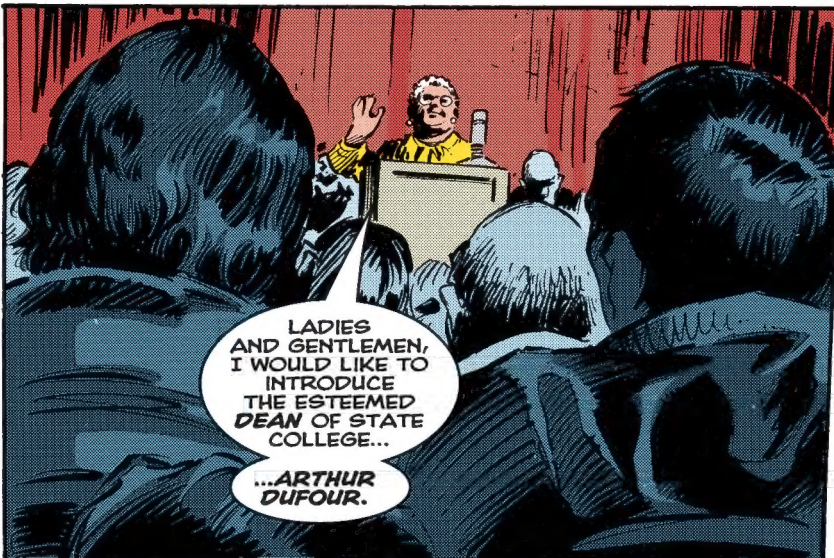
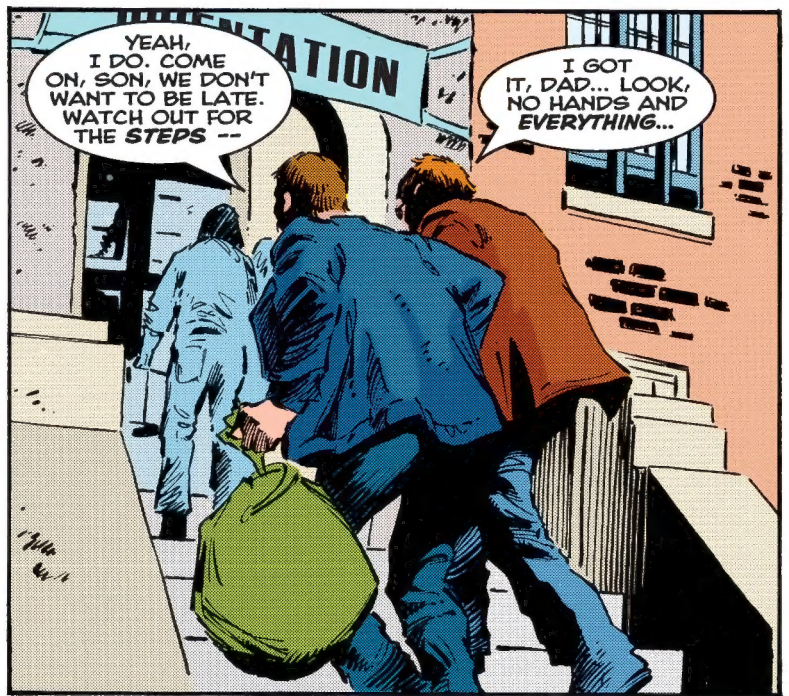
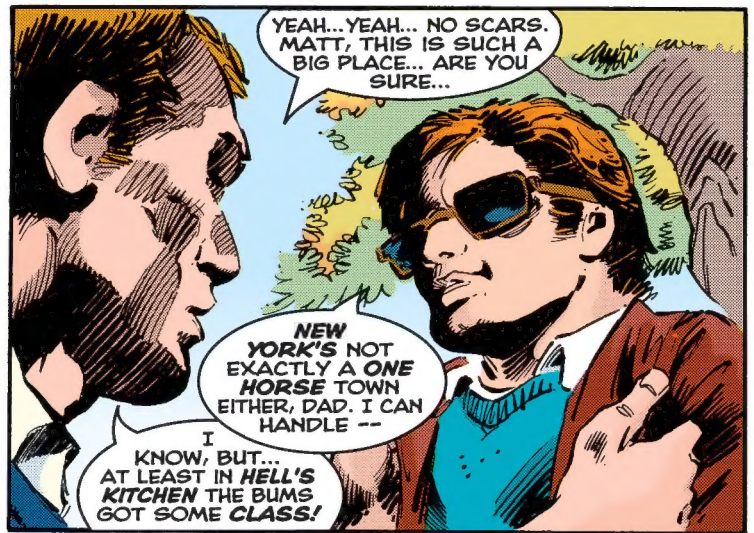
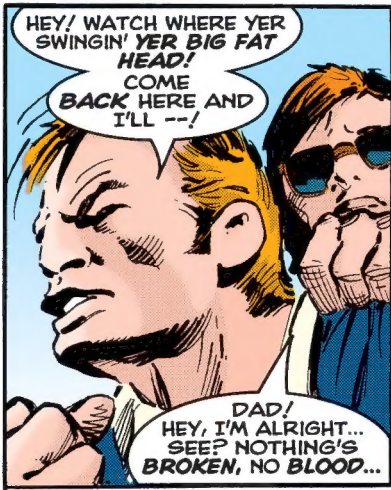
DAD...

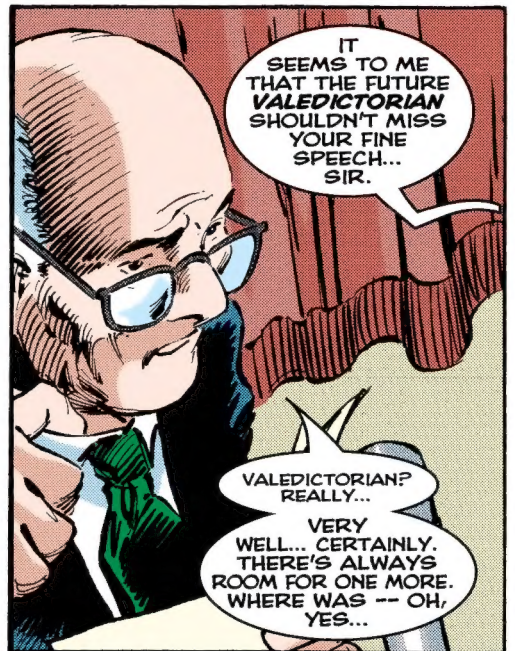
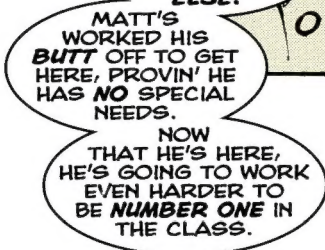
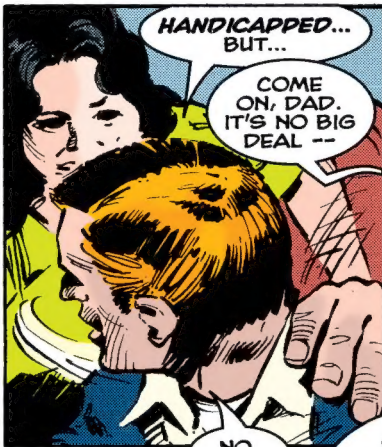
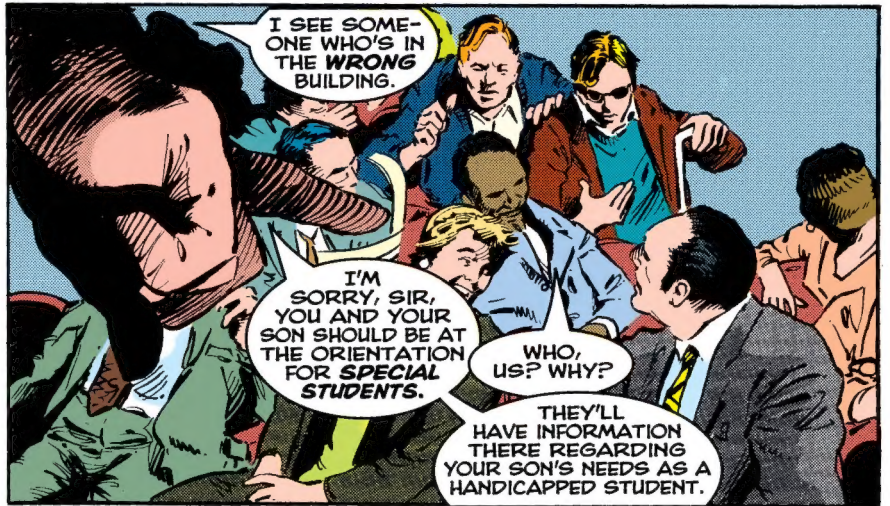
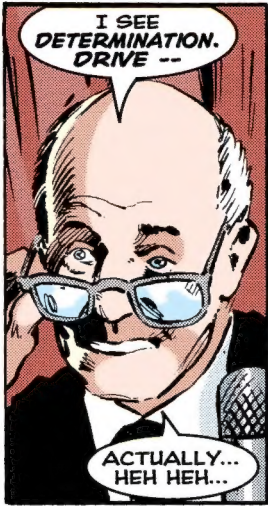
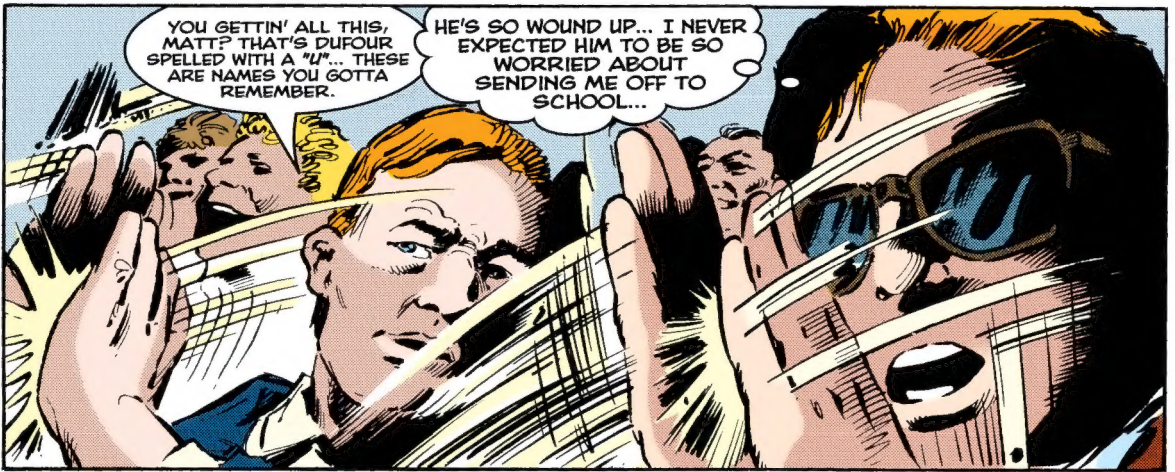
WHOOOPS...
HERE, LET
ME **COMB** THAT
DOWN FOR YOU,
MATTY...

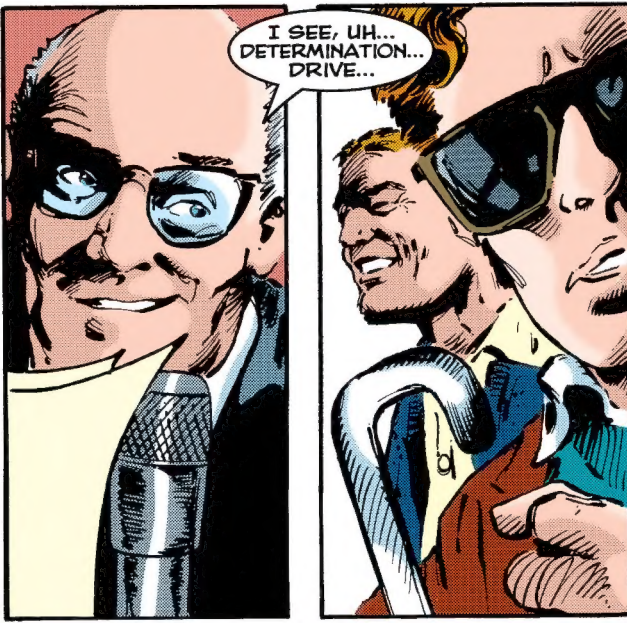


LET'S
GO OVER THAT
PART ABOUT NOT
EMBARRASSING
ME AGAIN...

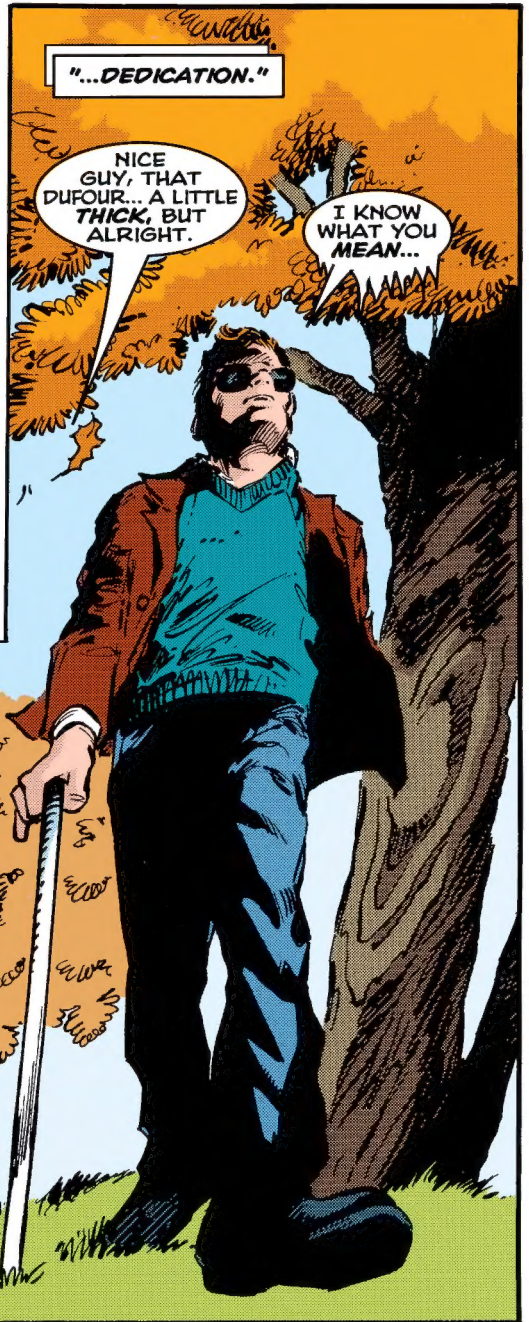








I SEE, UH...
DETERMINATION...
DRIVE...



"...DEDICATION."

NICE
GUY, THAT
DUFOUR... A LITTLE
THICK, BUT
ALRIGHT.

I KNOW
WHAT YOU
MEAN...



SO...
THE DORM IS
OVER HERE... LOTS
OF **GRASS**, SO BE
CAREFUL WHERE
YOU STEP...

WALKING
ON GRASS?
HOWEVER WILL I
MANAGE?

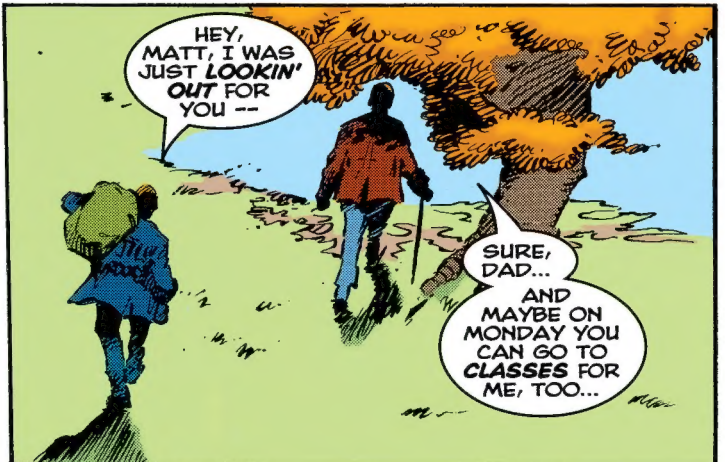
UH...
HEH HEH...
RIGHT. YOU
UPSET ABOUT
SOMETHIN',
CHAMP?

UPSET?
ME? **WHYP** JUST
BECAUSE MY FATHER
ALMOST STARTED A
FISTFIGHT IN FRONT OF
MY ENTIRE CLASS?



JUST
BECAUSE YOU
DECLARED TO THE
DEAN THAT I WAS GOING
TO BE **VALEDICTORIAN**
BEFORE I'VE EVER
TAKEN A
TEST?

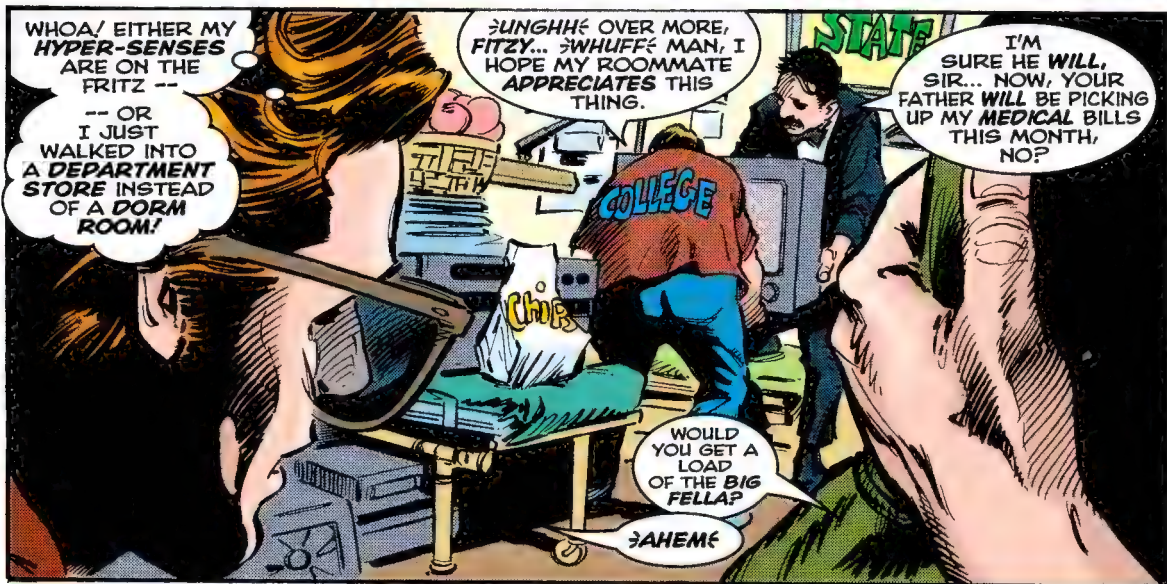
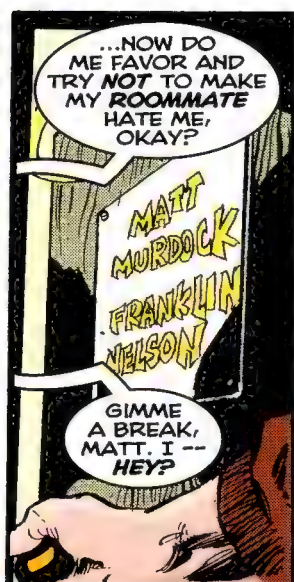
NOPE.
EVERYTHING'S JUST
PEACHY.

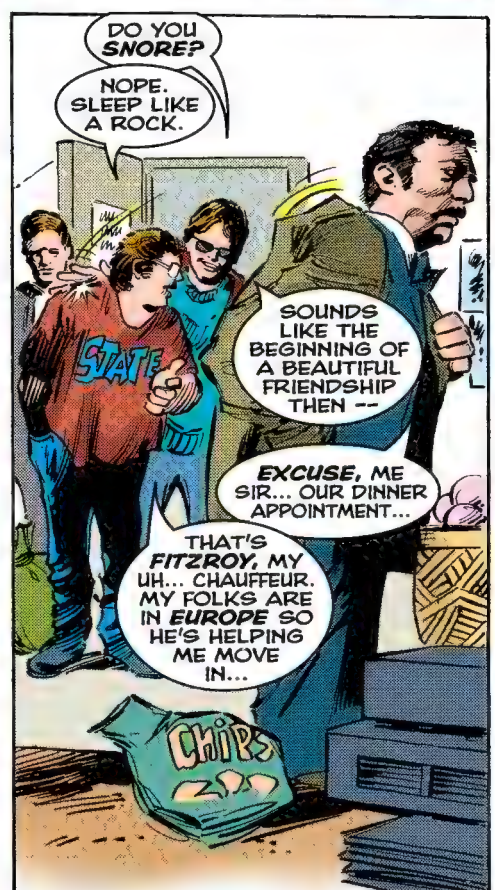


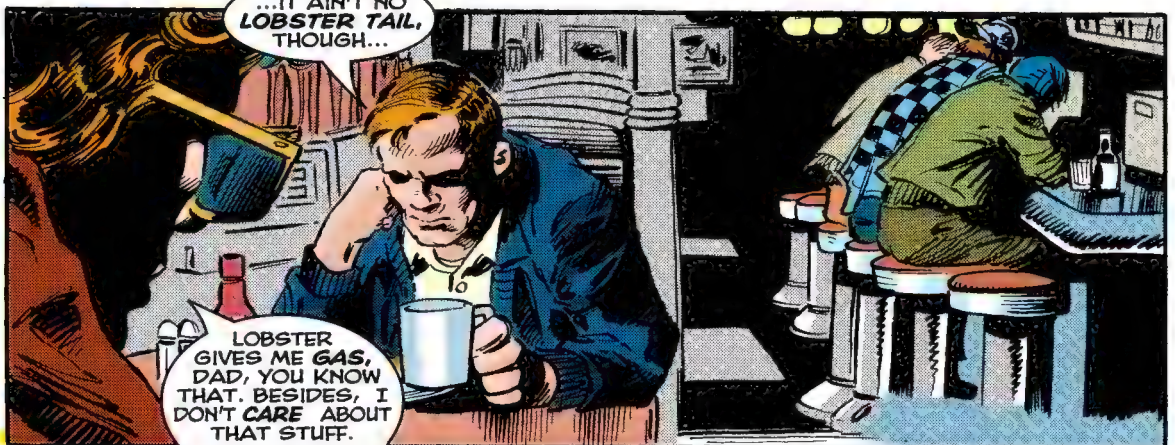
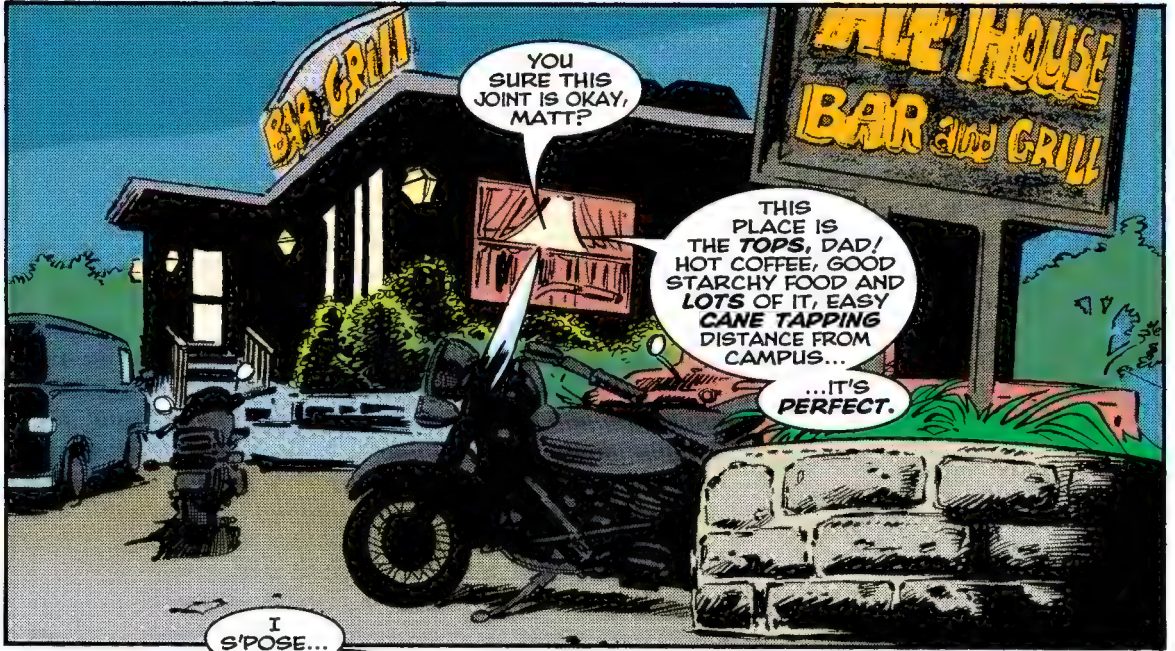
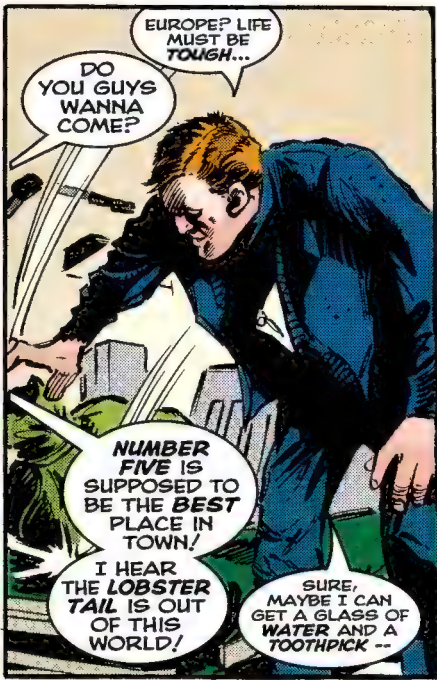
HEY,
MATT, I WAS
JUST **LOOKIN'**
OUT FOR
YOU --

SURE,
DAD...

AND
MAYBE ON
MONDAY YOU
CAN GO TO
CLASSES FOR
ME, TOO...









MATT? I GOTTA ASK YOU SOMETHIN' AN' BE HONEST...

DO YOU THINK... DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR MOTHER WOULD BE PROUD OF HOW I RAISED YOU?

I'M NOT ASKIN' WOULD SHE BE PROUD OF YOU. YOU WERE THE APPLE OF HER EYE HANDS DOWN... BUT ME... I MEAN... DID I DO A GOOD JOB?



OF COURSE YOU DID, POP. I MEAN, SURE, WE'VE HAD IT TOUGH...

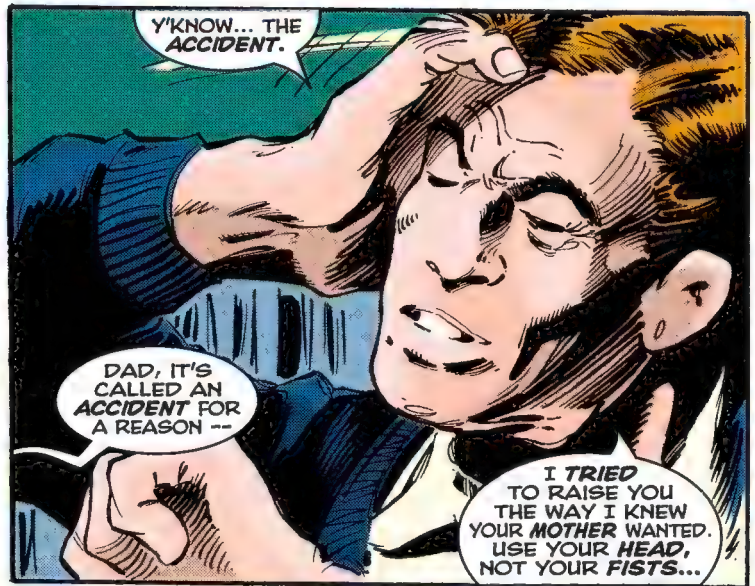
BUT AS A KID, I NEVER *KNEW* IT. THERE WAS ALWAYS FOOD ON THE TABLE...

...A PRESENT UNDER THE TREE AT CHRISTMAS... LAUGHTER IN THE HOUSE.



AND MOST OF ALL I ALWAYS FELT SAFE... SECURE. YOU'VE BEEN GREAT, DAD. THE BEST.

SAFE. I GUESS. 'COURSE, I DIDN'T KEEP YOU SAFE FROM...



Y'KNOW... THE ACCIDENT.

DAD, IT'S CALLED AN ACCIDENT FOR A REASON --

I TRIED TO RAISE YOU THE WAY I KNEW YOUR MOTHER WANTED. USE YOUR HEAD, NOT YOUR FISTS...

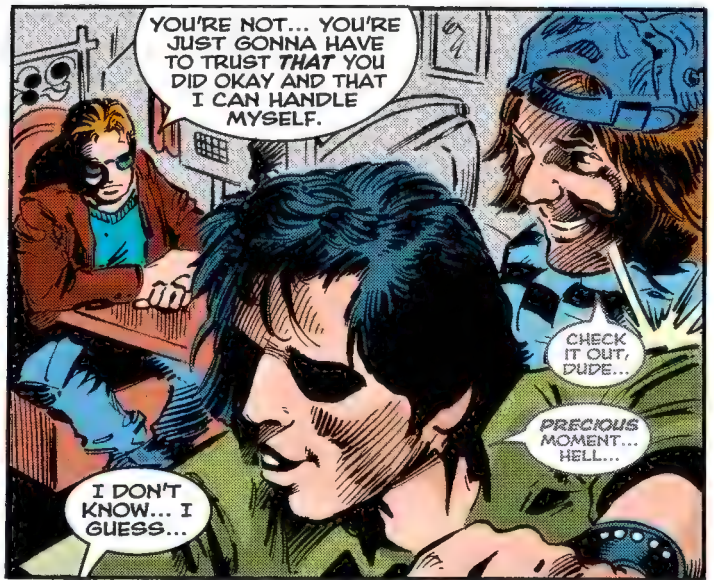


...HIT THE BOOKS, NOT A PUNCHING BAG...

BUT WHEN IT CAME DOWN TO IT, WHEN YOU REALLY NEEDED ME TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU, I DROPPED THE BALL... COULDN'T PROTECT YOU.



SO HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU TWO HUNDRED MILES AWAY?



YOU'RE NOT... YOU'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO TRUST THAT YOU DID OKAY AND THAT I CAN HANDLE MYSELF.

CHECK IT OUT, DUDE...

PRECIOUS MOMENT... HELL...

I DON'T KNOW... I GUESS...



LOOK... GET ME ANOTHER CUP OF COFFEE, WOULD YAP I...

I GOTTA GO USE THE CAN. BE RIGHT BACK.

SURE, DAD.



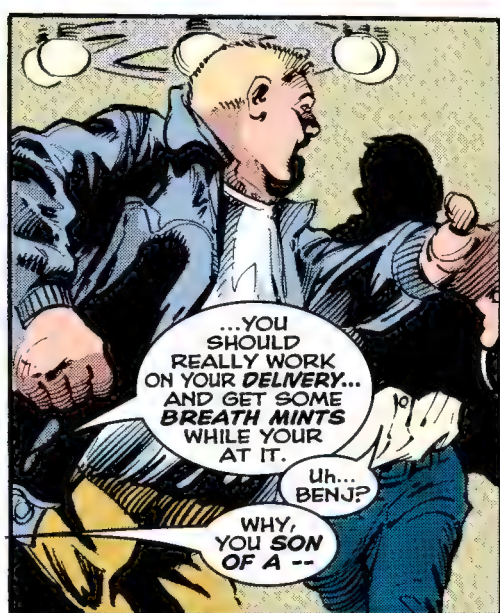
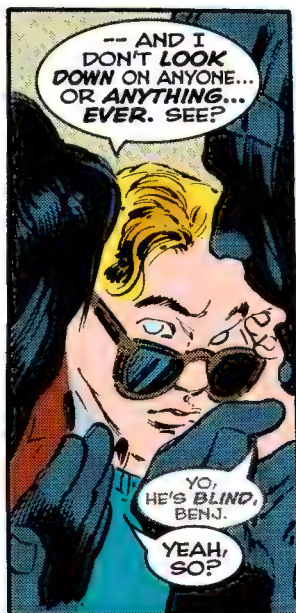
I NEVER REALIZED HOW **GUILTY** HE STILL FELT OVER THE ACCIDENT... OR HOW **WORRIED** HE IS ABOUT MY BEING ON MY OWN.

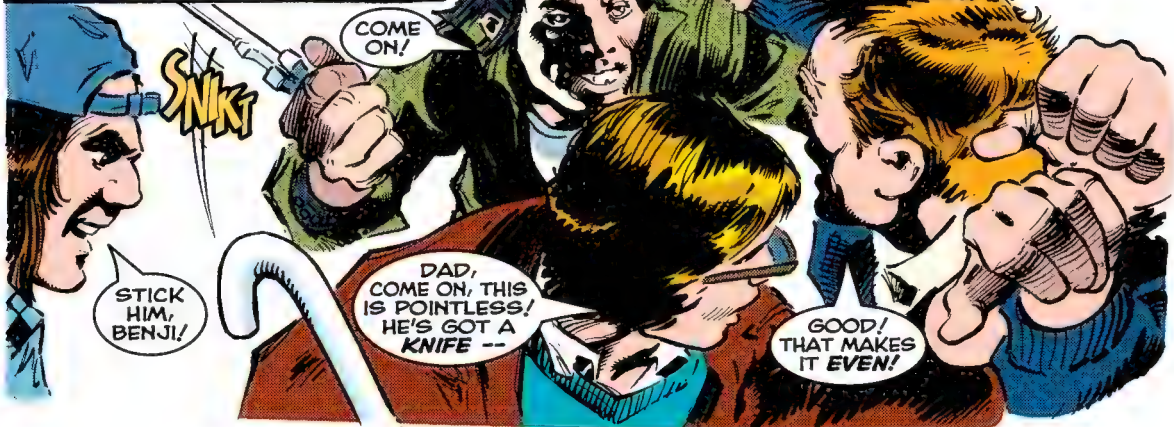
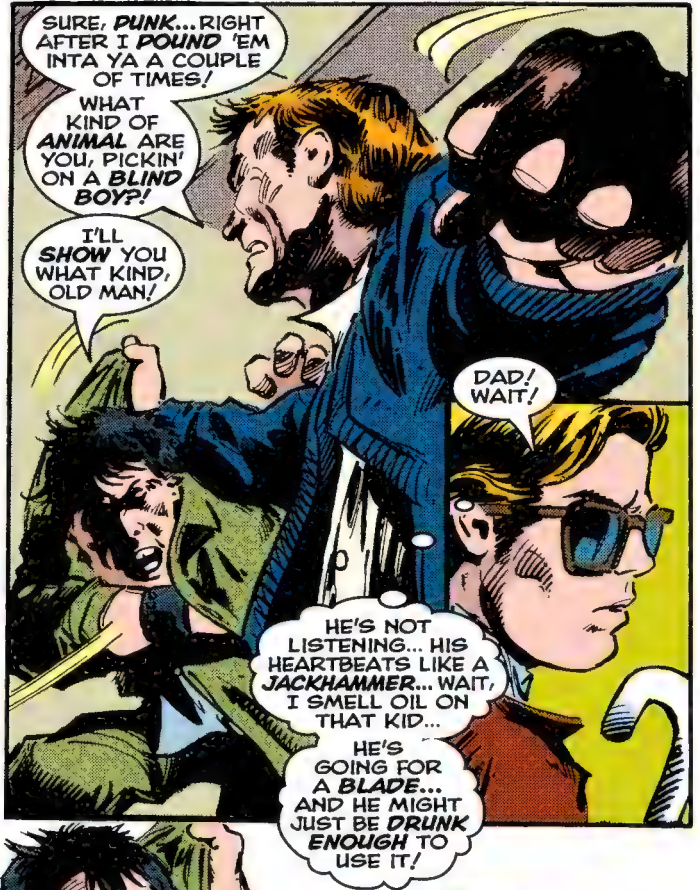
WHAT'S WORSE IS THAT HE HAS NO CLUE I'M BETTER EQUIPPED TO HANDLE MYSELF NOW THAN I WAS BEFORE THE ACCIDENT!

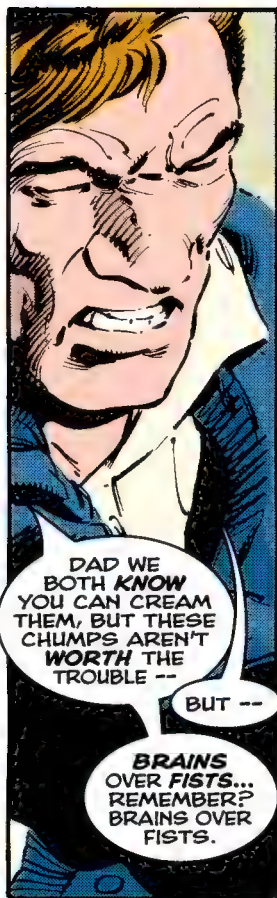


BUT I CAN'T TELL HIM ABOUT MY SENSES... MY **SECRET TRAINING**. IT GOES AGAINST EVERYTHING HE'S TAUGHT ME --

SOOOO WHAT WE GOT HERE? A COLLEGE BOY SO COOL HE WEARS HIS **SUNGLASSES** AT NIGHT? HOW YOU DOIN', FRIEND?







DAD WE BOTH **KNOW** YOU CAN CREAM THEM, BUT THESE CHUMPS AREN'T **WORTH** THE TROUBLE --

BUT --

BRAINS OVER **FISTS**... REMEMBER? **BRAINS** OVER **FISTS**.

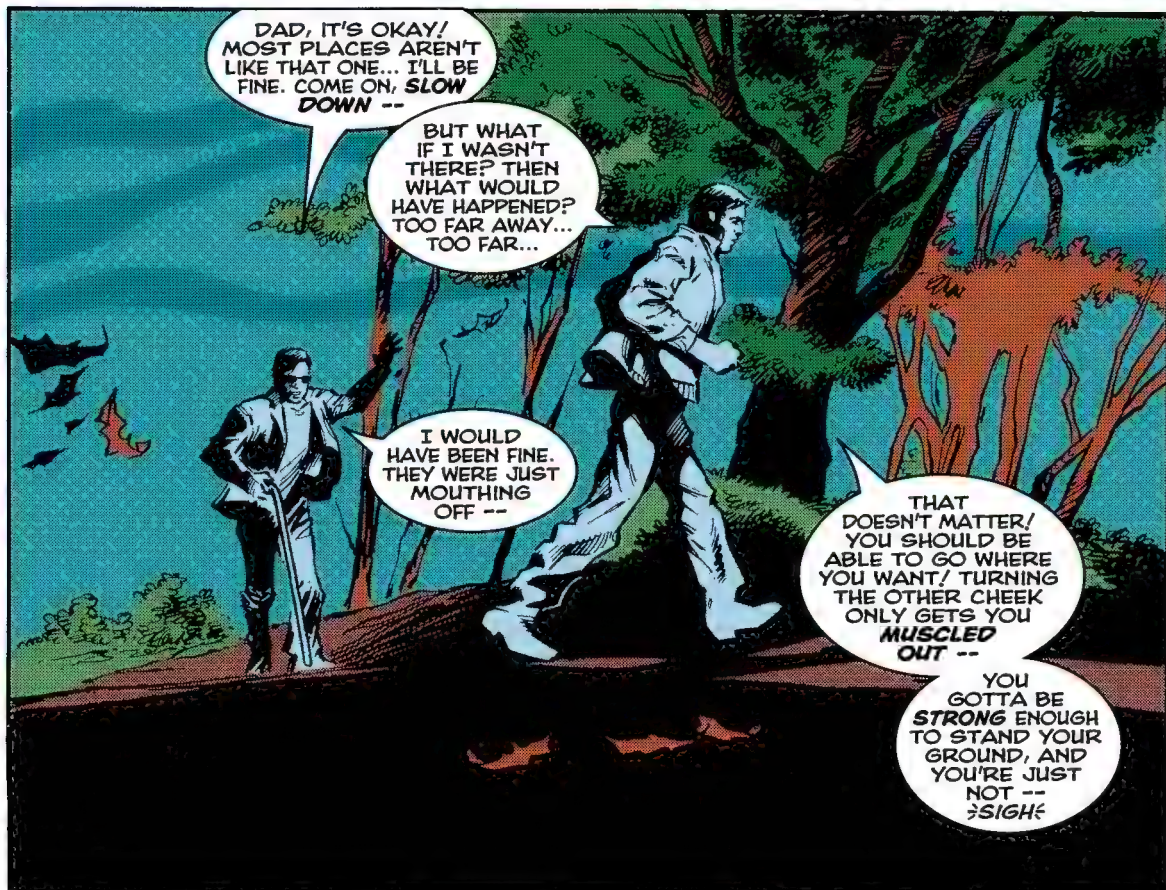


DAD!

AND DON'T COME BACK!

NOT RIGHT... THIS ISN'T WHAT **COLLEGE** IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT/ SUPPOSED TO BE **SAFE**...

I'M NOT GONNA SEND MY BOY OUT OF THE **CITY** SO HE CAN GET A SHIV PULLED ON HIM IN SOME **HICK BAR**!P



DAD, IT'S OKAY! MOST PLACES AREN'T LIKE THAT ONE... I'LL BE FINE. COME ON, **SLOW DOWN** --

BUT WHAT IF I WASN'T THERE? THEN WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED? TOO FAR AWAY... TOO FAR...

I WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE. THEY WERE JUST MOUTHING OFF --

THAT DOESN'T MATTER! YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO WHERE YOU WANT/ TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK ONLY GETS YOU **MUSCLED OUT** --

YOU GOTTA BE **STRONG** ENOUGH TO STAND YOUR GROUND, AND YOU'RE JUST NOT --
SIGH

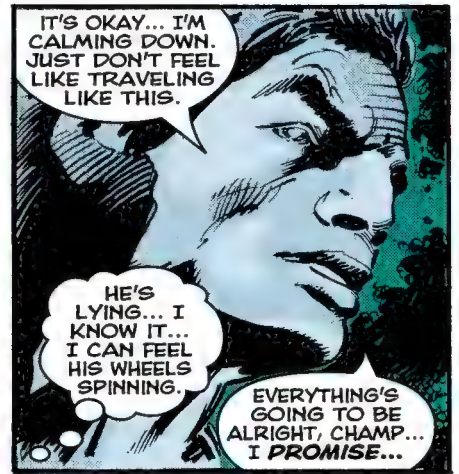


I'M SORRY, MATTY... I'M JUST STEAMED... I DIDN'T MEAN --

IT'S OKAY, DAD... REALLY.

DAD...

I'M GONNA CRASH ON YOUR FLOOR TONIGHT, OKAY? I'LL LEAVE IN THE MORNING.



IT'S OKAY... I'M CALMING DOWN. JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE TRAVELING LIKE THIS.

HE'S LYING... I KNOW IT... I CAN FEEL HIS WHEELS SPINNING.

EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT, CHAMP... I PROMISE...



ZZZZNGH

"DID THE RIGHT THING, WALKING AWAY," HIS BRAIN TELLS HIS HEART AGAIN AND AGAIN.



IT WAS *GOOD* TO DO THAT FOR THE BOY. THE *RIGHT* LESSON TO TEACH... IT'S WHAT HIS *MOTHER* WOULD HAVE HIM DO.



GREAT.

SLEEP IT OFF.

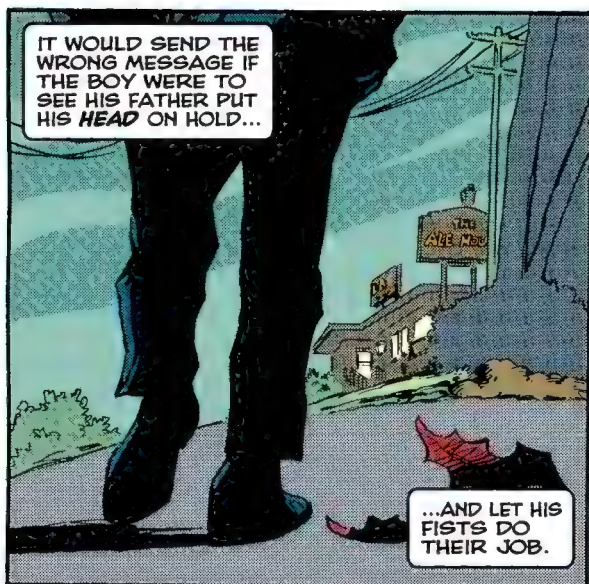
LET IT GO.

SHE WOULD NOT CONDONE THIS. IT WOULDN'T BE THE RIGHT MESSAGE.



THIS IS A PLACE OF CIVILITY. THIS IS A PLACE OF *INTELLIGENCE*, *BRAWLERS* AND *ROUGHNECKS* DO NOT BELONG...

BEST THEN, THAT MATT'S NOWHERE NEAR WHEN IT HAPPENS.



IT WOULD SEND THE WRONG MESSAGE IF THE BOY WERE TO SEE HIS FATHER PUT HIS **HEAD** ON HOLD...

...AND LET HIS FISTS DO THEIR JOB.



A **GOOD** FATHER KEEPS THAT **ANGRY** FACE OF THE WORLD AWAY FROM HIS KIDS...

...FOR AS LONG AS HE CAN...



...THOUGH SOMETIMES...



LOOKIE LOOKIE! IT'S COLLEGE BOY BACK WITHOUT THE OLD MAN!

EXCUSE ME, BARTENDER? CAN I GET A GINGER ALE PLEASE --

THOUGHT I TOLD YOU, YOU AIN'T WELCOME HERE, COLLEGE!



YOU DID...

BUT I'M DEAF TOO, CAN'T YOU TELL? NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO BUY A SODA.

AWRIGHT, THAT IS **OFFICIAL** LIP! THAT'S HOW THE BOY WANTS IT --



-- THEN HE **GETS** IT!

GOOD HEAVENS! I'VE **DROPPED** MY DOLLAR. HOW **CLUMSY** OF ME!







